business delegation from FICCI visited Pakistan from September 24-26, 1995, on invitation from the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, to participate in a seminar on SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA).

(b) It is not possible to anticipate or quantify the likely trade flow as u result of the visit.

Coal reserves in India

726. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has vast coal reserves;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government of India is importing coal;

(c) if so. what is the percentage of coal being imported to that of total indigenous production;

(d) what is the total coal consumption and requirement in the country; and

(c) whether import of coal is cost-effective?

THE MINISTR OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY- OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As on 1.1.95, Geological Survey of India (GSI) has established about 200 billion tonnes of coal reserves in scams 0.9 metre and above in thickness and down to depth of 1200 metres in different parts of the country.

(b) No, Sir. Coal is imported directly by the consumers under Open General Licence (OGL).

(c) During 1994-95. 11.49 million tonnes of coal amounting to 4.53% of the total indigenous production was imported.

(d) Demand of coal during 1994-95 as assessed py Planning Commission was 273.50 million tonnes (including 5.00 million tonnes of washcry middlings) and the total off-take of coal was 263.31 million tonnes (including 2.67 millio tonnes of washcry middlings).

(e) It is not possible to make a genen assessment about cost effectiveness u imported coal which inter-alia depend upon factors like specific customc requirement, quality of coal, prcvailin international price vis-a-vis indigenou availability and location of the consume from the source of supply etc.

More job opportunities in Punjab

727. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will th Minister of PLANNING ANI PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATIOr be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose ti take some appropriate corrective steps to create more opportunities of jobs to th poor people in the State of Punjab durin the next two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THI MINISTRY OF PLANNING ANI PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTAT (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) (a) to (d) No new programme for and generation, of employment for the poor under consideration of the Plannin, Commission. Employment generation Punjab or for that matter in any State primarily a function of the pace and pattern of development in the State am an employment strategy appropriate to the State has to be drawn up am implemented by the State Government The Central Government supplement the efforts of the State Govcrnmcn through the various Central Sector am Centrally Sponsored Special Employmcn Programmes.

Two major Centrally sponsors Programmes which arc bcin implemented to increase the employmcn opportunities for the rural poo